

REMARKS

Claims 1-37 are pending. The specification is objected to. Claims 1-3, 5-16, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,063,500 to Shorter. Claims 4, 26, and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,063,500 to Shorter. Claims 17 and 28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,063,500 to Shorter in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,704,764 to Ottati. Claims 18 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,063,500 to Shorter in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,704,764 to Ottati and U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0013827 to Edstrom et al. Claims 19-25 and 30-36 are objected to as being dependent from rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

Reconsideration is requested. The rejections are traversed. No new matter is added. Claims 1, 9, 11, 14, 16, and 27 are amended. Claims 25 and 36 are canceled. Claims 1-24, 26-35, and 37 remain in the case for consideration.

SPECIFICATION OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objects to the specification as lacking a “BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION”. The Examiner requests correction to include such a section. The Examiner also suggests that “[i]f no text follows the section heading, the phrase ‘Not Applicable’ should follow the section heading” (*see* Office Action dated January 24, 2008, page 2).

The Applicant respectfully disagrees. According to 37 C.F.R. § 1.77(b), as quoted by the Examiner, “The specification *should* include the following sections in order” (emphasis added). The term “should” implies that the listed sections are recommended, but not required. Were such sections required, the term “must” would have been used instead of “should”. The Applicant believes it is acceptable to omit the “BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION” under 37 C.F.R. § 1.77.

The Applicant further notes that nowhere does the Code of Federal Regulations, at 37 C.F.R. § 1.77 or anywhere else, require the Applicant to include a section heading and the phrase “Not applicable” if a section has no text.

Accordingly, the Applicant believes the specification is acceptable without amendment.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

The Examiner objects to claims 11 and 14 as using the term “farm machine”, which the Examiner asserts is not supported by the specification. The Applicant notes that the term “server farm machine”, to which the Examiner recommends correction, is supported by the specification (*see, e.g.*, specification, page 10, lines 18-20). The Applicant believes a person skilled in the art would understand the term “farm machine” without amendment. Nevertheless, the Applicant has amended claims 11 and 14 as suggested by the Examiner.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

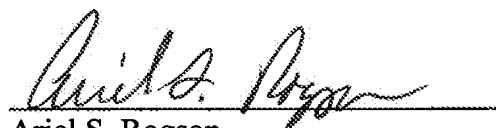
The Examiner has indicated that claims 19-25 and 30-36 including allowable subject matter, and would be allowed if rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 16 is amended to include the features of previous claim 25; claim 27 is amended to include the features of previous claim 36. Accordingly, claims 16 and 27 have the same scope as previous claims 25 and 36, and should be allowable, as should dependent claims 17-24, 26, 28-35, and 37.

Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to recite language similar to that of previous claims 25 and 36, but in apparatus and system form. Accordingly, the Applicant believes claims 1 and 9 should also be allowable at this time, as should dependent claims 2-8 and 10-15.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-24, 26-35, and 37 of the application as amended is requested. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

Respectfully submitted,

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